

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF CARL E. FITCHETT,  
JR.

**HON. RENEE L. ELLMERS**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mrs. ELLMERS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to seek to honor the life of Carl E. Fitchett, Jr., who passed away May 29, 2016 in Smithfield, North Carolina at the age of 93.

Mr. Fitchett had a fierce passion for serving his community, as made apparent through his past roles as director of the N.C. Oil Jobbers Association, president of the Dunn Chamber of Commerce, and Commander of the American Legion. He also served as president of the Dunn Rotary Club which awarded him the Man of the Year award in 1958, and was a deacon, elder, and trustee at First Presbyterian Church of Dunn. In addition to his volunteer leadership roles in the Dunn community, Carl served in World War II and owned and operated Fitchett Oil Co., retiring in 1991.

Mr. Fitchett is survived by his wife, Vivian; two children, Carl and Jeanette; and four grandchildren, Duncan, Margaret, Austin and Katherine.

Carl Fitchett, like so many of our community leaders, sacrificed time to better the lives of those around him. He spent his entire life helping those in Harnett County, and we are forever indebted to him for his dedication in serving the local community, especially his hometown of Dunn. He truly embodied the role of the local hero.

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL  
ANNIVERSARY OF FARM CREDIT

SPEECH OF

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 14, 2016*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the centennial of the Farm Credit System.

One hundred years ago the Farm Credit System began its mission to provide American agriculture with a steady hand and dependability, which they needed to provide for our nation.

Throughout its history the Farm Credit System has helped our farmers through the Great Depression, the agriculture crisis of the 1980's, and even the market collapse of 2008.

This deep rooted understanding of our nation's complex agribusiness industry—and the people that work tirelessly to send products to market—is what makes the Farm Credit System so critical to our producers and their future success.

And this dedication, to my district in Upstate New York and to American agriculture across this great nation, is why I am proud to stand

on the House Floor today and honor the Farm Credit System on its centennial.

TRIBUTE TO RUNELL FOSTER

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, one hundred ten years ago a virtuous woman of God, Runell "Nell" Brooks Foster was born in Gwinnett, Georgia on March 27, 1906 to George B. and Emma Palmer Brooks; and

Whereas, she grew up on the family farm in Gwinnett County, Georgia and married Mr. Clyde Foster on February 12, 1928; their union has blessed our district and nation ever since; and

Whereas, this phenomenal Proverbs 31 woman, who is the oldest living graduate of Grayson High School, has shared her time and talents as a wife, mother, educator and motivator, becoming a Georgia citizen of great worth, a fearless leader and a servant to all by always advancing the lives of others; and

Whereas, Mrs. Foster has been blessed with a long, happy life, devoted to God, Community and Family; and

Whereas, Mrs. Foster along with her family and friends are celebrating a remarkable milestone, her 110th Birthday, we pause to acknowledge a woman who is a cornerstone in Gwinnett County, Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mrs. Foster on her birthday and to wish her well and recognize her for an exemplary life which is an inspiration to all; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim March 27, 2016 as Mrs. Runell "Nell" Brooks Foster Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 27th day of March, 2016.

HONORING JUDGE DAN WINN

**HON. TOM GRAVES**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Judge Dan Winn, a good friend and dedicated public servant who passed away on May 10th. Judge Winn served the people of Georgia as Polk County Solicitor, and Solicitor General and Superior Court Judge in the Tallapoosa Judicial Circuit, as well as Senior Judge for the State of Georgia.

Judge Winn was a resident of Cedartown, Georgia. He selflessly risked his life for our country as a Marine fighter pilot during World War II and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. After the war, he went on to

study law, and had a long and distinguished legal career.

His lifetime achievements include serving as Georgia's Assistant Attorney General, a member of the Georgia Constitution Revision Commission and President of the World Jurist Foundation.

Judge Winn was the embodiment of a servant leader and was well respected by everyone who knew him.

Like his family and many friends, I will miss Judge Winn dearly but I know he lived life to the fullest and made a real difference in our community, state and country.

He will not be forgotten.

HONORING CAPTAIN JAMES ARCH  
FOULKS JR.

**HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of the life of U.S. Air Force Captain James Arch Foulks Jr. and his service as a B-29 pilot in the 372nd Bomber Squadron. On Friday, June 17, 2016, surrounded by his family, Captain Foulks was presented with nothing less than full military honors and a customary fly-over in Arlington Cemetery.

A native of Union City, Tennessee, Captain Foulks made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom on October 23, 1951 during the Korean War, when his plane was shot down near the Yellow Sea. Though some of his crew survived, including a handful of Prisoners of War, he and others on his crew were listed as Missing in Action.

I sincerely express my gratitude to Captain James Foulks for his service and his membership in the ranks of those who have sacrificed their lives in the name of freedom.

TRIBUTE TO WALTER AND MIRIAM  
HENDERSON

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, Walter and Miriam Henderson are celebrating fifty (50) years in marriage today in Rockdale County, Georgia; and

Whereas, their union on March 26, 1966 blessed our community with a family that has enhanced our district; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man of God and this phenomenal and virtuous Proverbs 31 woman are beacons of light to those in need, their church and the many friends from across the state of Georgia; and

Whereas, Mr. and Mrs. Henderson are distinguished citizens of our state; they are spiritual warriors, persons of compassion, fearless

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

leaders and servants to all; they are visionaries who have shared with their family and our community their passion to improve the lives of others; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mr. Walter and Mrs. Miriam Henderson as they celebrate their 50th Anniversary, fifty (50) years in marital bliss; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim March 26, 2016 as Mr. Walter and Mrs. Miriam Henderson Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 26th day of March, 2016.

#### HONORING MARY DUBOIS IN CELEBRATION OF HER 90TH BIRTHDAY

#### HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my congratulations to Mary Dubois in celebration of her reaching the milestone 90th birthday.

As she reflects on the great memories and milestones that have highlighted the past ninety years, I know she will think fondly on all that she's accomplished and the positive impact she's had on New Hampshire.

It is with great admiration that I congratulate Ms. Dubois on achieving this wonderful milestone, and wish her the best on all future endeavors.

#### TRIBUTE TO PASTOR MICHAEL SHINN

#### HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, Pastor Michael A. Shinn is celebrating twenty-five (25) years in Pastoral leadership this year at New World Harvest Church and has provided stellar leadership to the church on an international level; and

Whereas, Pastor Michael A. Shinn under the guidance of God has pioneered and sustained New World Harvest Church as an instrument in our community that uplifts the spiritual, physical and mental welfare of our citizens; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man of God has given hope to the hopeless, fed the hungry and is a beacon of light to those in need; and

Whereas, Pastor Shinn is a spiritual warrior, a man of compassion, a fearless leader and a servant to all, but most of all a visionary who has shared with his Church, our District and the world his passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Pastor Michael A. Shinn as he celebrates twenty-five years on his Pastoral Anniversary; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim March 18, 2016 as Pastor Michael A. Shinn Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 18th day of March, 2016.

SUPPORT FOR S. 2133, H.R. 4902,  
AND H.R. 4639

#### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support the bipartisan legislation reported from the Oversight and Government Reform Committee for consideration today by the full House.

I urge my colleagues to support the Fraud Reduction and Data Analytics Act (S. 2133). I joined Chairman MEADOWS of the Government Operations Subcommittee to introduce the House companion, H.R. 4180. Our bipartisan, bicameral legislation will prompt agencies to become more pro-active in deploying best practices to continuously monitor their financial data to better detect and deter fraudulent activities.

The fight against fraud and improper payments is a long-standing challenge transcending Presidential administrations and affecting all federal agencies. Our Committee has investigated this issue in depth, and when it comes to rooting out fraud, we would be wise to heed Benjamin Franklin's famous axiom that, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

As my colleagues will recall, GAO earlier this year reported that improper payments made by the federal government totaled nearly \$137 billion in fiscal year 2015. Over a 10-year period, that's more than \$1.2 trillion dollars, or the equivalent of the spending cuts required under sequestration. Federal agencies ought to be doing more to stop these improper payments on the front end, and this should be considered low-hanging fruit in our ongoing effort to curb government waste.

In addition, I was pleased to collaborate with Chairman HURD of the Oversight and Government Reform IT Subcommittee to introduce the Air and Marine Officers Pay Reform Act (H.R. 4902) to improve the efficiency of the pay system for law enforcement officers of the Customs and Border Protection's Air and Marine Operations.

These officers are currently compensated for their overtime through a variety of systems including Administratively Uncontrollable Overtime, which according to the U.S. Office of Special Counsel has a troubling history of misuse. Our legislation harmonizes the pay systems to avoid situations in which employees of CBP are working side-by-side yet subject to different overtime calculations. This bipartisan legislation addresses that issue and clarifies agent payroll procedures. It is imperative that Congress create a new pay system for Border Patrol agents because there are still hundreds of officers and Internal Affairs employees operating under an older, abused system.

In addition to addressing inequities and saving the agency \$1.6 million in the first year, this legislation continues our effort to improve efficiency and interoperability across the federal government. Our bill reflects a collaborative effort with the majority and minority, and I urge all of my colleagues to join me in support of H.R. 4902.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support the legislation introduced by Reps. BLUM

and MEADOWS (H.R. 4639) to reauthorize the Office of Special Counsel. Mr. MEADOWS and I held a Government Operations Subcommittee hearing on this subject in December. At that time, we looked at the peculiar situation of the Office of Special Counsel, along with the Merit Systems Protection Board and the Office of Government Ethics. These three agencies are some of the smallest agencies in the federal government, but their work has a tremendous impact on the integrity of the federal civil service. Unfortunately, the authorizations for these agencies expired in 2007, yet they've been sustained by annual appropriations, so Congressional action is long overdue.

The Office of Special Counsel's primary mission is to protect federal employees from prohibited personnel practices, enforce the Hatch Act, and enforce employment rights under the Uniform Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act for federal employees who have served in the uniformed services. It also serves as the front line of defense for whistleblowers who disclose government wrong doing.

The bill would reauthorize the OSC through fiscal year 2020. It would make several changes to OSC's statutory authority that would, among other things, enhance its access to federal agency information, increase agency accountability in whistleblower disclosure cases, and modify procedural requirements for certain prohibited personnel practice cases. For example, it would provide OSC with statutory authority to access agency information for the purposes of its investigations in a manner similar to Inspectors General. Another provision would require agencies to provide a description of the actions they have taken when OSC substantiates misconduct on the part of an employee.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the bipartisan spirit in which our Committee has worked to advance these bills, and I hope we can sustain this momentum to continue improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the federal government.

#### TRIBUTE TO YULINDA COOK

#### HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, twenty-eight years ago a virtuous woman of God accepted her calling to serve in the Social Security Administration; and

Whereas, Mrs. Yulinda Cook begun her career as a Teleservice Representative in Birmingham, Alabama with the Social Security Administration, where she educated and mentored throughout her many years of service as a Technical Expert, providing stellar leadership and outstanding service to our community and ending her tenure as an Operations Supervisor in the Gwinnett Field Office in November, 2015; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents, giving the citizens of our District a friend to help those in need as a fearless leader and servant to all, who ensured that the system worked for everyone; and

Whereas, Mrs. Yulinda Cook is a wife, mother and grandmother; she is also a cornerstone in our community who has enhanced

the lives of thousands for the betterment of our District and Nation; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mrs. Yulinda Cook on her retirement and to wish her well in her new endeavors; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim February 27, 2016 as Mrs. Yulinda Cook Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 27th day of February, 2016.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND RESCUE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 21, 2016

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue on its 50th anniversary and to commend the men and women who have selflessly served in the Department during its history.

What is now the third largest career fire department in the Commonwealth of Virginia began in 1966 with the hiring of Phil Ponder from Dumfries as the first paid firefighter and Shelby Jones of Williamsburg as the first fire marshal in the county. Later that year, Mr. Jones was appointed Director of Fire and Rescue Services, the equivalent of today's Department Chief. Prior to 1966, the local community relied solely upon the Occoquan-Woodbridge-Lorton Volunteer Fire Department that was formed in approximately 1938 out of necessity because there were no fire and rescue services offered between the cities of Alexandria and Fredericksburg.

Since its inception, the Prince William Department of Fire and Rescue has led the way. In 1967, Prince William County became the first jurisdiction on the East Coast to implement the 911 System. That same year, Prince William became the first county in the Commonwealth and the National Capital Region to implement a physical ability exam for career firefighters. In 1994, Mary Beth Michos was hired as Chief; and became the first female fire and rescue chief of a metro-sized department. The Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue continues to maintain one of the most progressive combination fire departments in the country and its legacy of "firsts" continues. It is one of only three jurisdictions in the Commonwealth of Virginia with delegated training authority granted by the Virginia Department of Fire Programs.

Always on the front lines, the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue came to the aid of those directly impacted by the tragic events of September 11th in New York City and at the Pentagon. When tragedy struck again in 2005, Prince William fire protection personnel swung into action to provide assistance to the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

The Department of Fire and Rescue is comprised of three sections: community safety, operations, and support systems. At the time of the Department's founding, approximately 50,000 people lived in Prince William County. Today, the Department of Fire and Rescue effectively serves a population of 432,000 with a

staff of 555 uniformed and 60 civilian personnel providing around the clock services from 21 fire stations in a county spanning 348 square miles. In 2015, the Department responded to approximately 48,000 calls, and it recently broke ground for Station 26, which is expected to open in mid-2017.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue as it celebrates 50 years of service to the residents of the county. I thank the brave men and women of the Department as well as its leadership for their tireless commitment to public safety and the protection of lives and property in Prince William County.

RECOGNIZING THE NATIVE DAUGHTERS OF THE GOLDEN WEST

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 21, 2016

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the Native Daughters of the Golden West non-profit organization by proclaiming June 21, 2016 as Native Daughters of the Golden West Day.

The Native Daughters of the Golden West was founded on September 11, 1886 in Jackson, California by Lilly O'Reichling. The non-profit Mutual Benefit Corporation of Women was established on the principles of love of the home, devotion to the flag of our country, veneration of the pioneers of California, and an abiding faith in the existence of God.

The Native Daughters of the Golden West will be celebrating its 130th year of admirable work for our great State of California. They have grown to over 4,500 dedicated members and 80 Parlors throughout the Golden State. The society remains true visionaries and continues to be one of many stable and thriving women's non-profit organizations.

The Native Daughters of the Golden West offers its members a variety of valuable charitable organizations including, but not limited to, children's foundations, veterans' welfare, education and scholarships, and mission restoration.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending the Native Daughters of the Golden West upon this important milestone and for their exuberance and dedication to our State of California.

TRIBUTE TO POLICE CHIEF WILLIS D. BOOTH

HON. DAVID W. JOLLY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 21, 2016

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a man who served his community of Clearwater, Florida for many years, former Clearwater Police Chief Willis D. Booth. Former Chief Booth is being inducted into the Florida Law Enforcement Officers Hall of Fame.

Chief Booth was born November 12, 1924 in Safety Harbor, Florida and is the great grandson of the man credited to be the first

settler of Pinellas County peninsula, Mr. Count Odet Phillipe. Chief Booth graduated from Clearwater High School in 1942 and started his career in law enforcement September 6th, 1947.

It did not take long for Chief Booth to rise through the ranks. He was promoted to Sergeant on August 16th, 1949 and subsequently enrolled and graduated from the Southern Police Institute in 1953. Four years later, on July 28th, 1953, he advanced to the status of Captain. During this time, Booth was the man everyone could rely on filling in for any position when necessary, including as Senior Captain and Acting Chief when the acting officers were unavailable. Finally, when his predecessor, Chief Irving Dribben retired, Chief Booth was chosen to succeed him and became Chief on November 4th, 1957.

While Chief Booth was the Chief of Police for 11 years, he was a member of numerous groups and committees. He was a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and was a part of the Public Relations Committee in 1963. Additionally, he served on the Membership Committee and on the Regional Committee on Education and Training for Florida, Georgia, and Alabama. He was also on the Board of Directors of the Florida Police Chiefs Association, Tampa Bay Area Chiefs of Police Association, and served as president for both.

In 1968, Chief Booth retired from his role in the Clearwater Police Department to accept the position of Assistant Director of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and to continue making a difference in communities around the state. I want to thank Former Chief Willis Booth for his years of service to our community as a member of Florida Law Enforcement. I ask that this body join me in recognizing his service and congratulating him on a distinguished career. He is an important part of the history of Pinellas County and is most deserving of his induction into the Florida Law Enforcement Officers Hall of Fame.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. JULIA AARON HUMBLER

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 21, 2016

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I present the following U.S. Citizen of Distinction:

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the life of Mrs. Julia Aaron Humblers, who gave of herself in order for others to stand; and

Whereas, her dedicated service is present in New Orleans, Louisiana and Metropolitan Atlanta, for all to see her as an unwavering advocate of justice for the youth, the elderly, the poor and the downtrodden; and

Whereas, this remarkable, positive woman with a beautiful smile gave of herself, her time and her talent; never asking for fame or fortune but only to uplift those in need; and

Whereas, she led by example from behind the scenes, and was on the frontline for our nation; she was an original Freedom Rider in the 1960s, an active member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), a member of the Congress

of Racial Equality (CORE), a Goodwill Ambassador for her community, a charter member of her beloved church, New Beginning Full Gospel Baptist Church of Decatur, Georgia; and

Whereas, this virtuous Proverbs 31 woman was a mother, a grandmother, a great-grandmother, a wife, a daughter, a friend, a warrior, a matriarch, and a woman of great integrity; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to bestow a Congressional recognition on Mrs. Julia Aaron Humbles for her leadership, friendship and service to all of the citizens in Georgia and throughout the Nation; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby attest to the 114th Congress that Mrs. Julia Aaron Humbles of DeKalb County, Georgia is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Honor" Mrs. Julia Aaron Humbles, U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the 4th District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 6th day of February, 2016.

COMMENDING PRINCE WILLIAM  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CHAIR-  
MAN DALENA KANOUSE

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Dalena Kanouse on the completion of her term as Chairman of the Prince William Chamber of Commerce. Each July, a new Chairman assumes the responsibility of working with Chamber staff and board members to promote the interests of the local business community.

After the passing of her late husband, SGM (Ret) Sam Kanouse in 2009, Mrs. Kanouse assumed the reins of his business, Management and Training Consultants, Incorporated (MTCI) as President and Chief Executive Officer. As a U.S. Department of Defense contractor, Mrs. Kanouse sets the strategic vision and strives for excellence as the leader of more than 100 employees.

Mrs. Kanouse brought the same resolve to her role as Chairman. Recognizing the evolution of the Northern Virginia economy, she stressed the importance of remaining current on workforce development trends and broadening a business' footprint within the field of government contracting. She also led the Prince William Chamber's workgroup on the establishment of a 3-year strategic plan.

The Prince William Chamber of Commerce represents the interests of nearly 70,000 employees in the metropolitan community of 432,000 residents. Dedicated to maintaining an environment where businesses and people thrive, the Prince William Chamber focuses its efforts in the area of business growth, economic development, advocacy, education, and community outreach. Signature events include the Prince William Valor Awards, Business Awards, Education and Innovation Scholarship Program, and Salute to the Armed Services Luncheon.

As a military spouse, mother of two, and grandmother to three, Mrs. Kanouse has proven to be a strong advocate for military families and early childhood education both personally and professionally. She actively serves on

multiple committees and councils within the Chamber, including the Chambers Veterans Council and Education and Innovation Committee. Under Mrs. Kanouse's leadership, the Chamber awarded \$7,500 in scholarships to local high school students this year. Mrs. Kanouse is a strong believer in practicing what she preaches. As a display of her commitment to hiring veterans, MTCI maintains a Bronze Level Certification in the Virginia Values Veterans (V3) program. During her tenure, Mrs. Kanouse increased Chamber membership, retention, and utilized her personal network to expand the reach of the Prince William Chamber of Commerce in the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Dalena Kanouse on her effective leadership and successes as Chairman. Mrs. Kanouse has proven herself to be a visionary leader whose efforts will leave a lasting impression on the Prince William Chamber of Commerce and the community it serves.

COMMENDING AND CONGRATU-  
LATING FAY G. CARBULLIDO  
AFTER 40 YEARS OF SERVICE ON  
GUAM

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Fay Diana Garrido Carbullido on her retirement after 40 years of service as a Registered Nurse on Guam. Fay has diligently served our community in almost every arena of nursing, including numerous leadership positions with the Guam Department of Education, Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services, Guam Memorial Hospital, and Naval Hospital Guam.

Fay was born on January 9, 1953 to Facundo Diego Borja Garrido and Florencia Crisostomo Lizama Garrido of Agana Heights. She was drawn to the nursing profession by her father, who served in the U.S. Navy, and mother, who was a Navy trained nurse. As a teenager, Fay volunteered as a Candy Stripper at the Guam Memorial Hospital. Upon her graduation from the Academy of Our Lady of Guam in 1971, Fay was awarded the Government of Guam's Professional Technical Scholarship to study nursing. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Seattle University in 1975.

She began her career providing direct nursing care in community and teaching hospitals. She was employed at the University of California—Davis Medical Center, where she worked to support her soon to be husband, Franklin Philip Carbullido, while he attended law school. Fay and Phil were married on August 2, 1976. She is the daughter-in-law of Francisco Chaco Carbullido and Maria Salas Castro Carbullido of Chalan Pago. They have four children: Brandon, Kristina, Adam, and Steven, and their family has been extended by Kristina's marriage to Charles Rapadas and their only grandson, Kellan Philip.

When Philip graduated from law school in 1978, they returned home to Guam. She continued as a hospital nurse caring for patients in the Emergency Room and Critical Care Unit, Labor & Delivery, and Medical-Surgical wards at Guam Memorial Hospital. After the

birth of her first child, Fay decided she needed to work regular hours.

A majority of her career was as a school health counselor and school nurse for the Guam Department of Education, a position she held for nearly 18 years from 1979–1984, 1989–1995, and 1997–2003. She cared for thousands of students during her assignments at Finegayan Elementary, Carbullido Elementary, C.L. Taitano Elementary and Tamuning Elementary Schools. As a school nurse, Fay demonstrated a kind and gentle care for each student, at times having up to 30 students in her health room. Many who have grown still fondly refer to her as Nurse Fay.

Between her assignments as a school nurse, Fay served in several leadership and administrative positions with GDOE and the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services. She was the School Health Program Coordinator of the entire education department from 1984–1989, where she oversaw the comprehensive School Health Program for all of Guam's public schools. Under her leadership, she championed having a school nurse in every public school and worked collaboratively with government agencies and private medical providers on issues affecting school-aged children.

In 1995, she was recruited by a Northern California home care agency to establish Guam's first home care nursing service, which provided much needed services and care to elderly and homebound patients throughout Guam. From 1995–1997, Fay was appointed to several positions within DPHSS, including the Community Health Nurse Supervisor then Administrator of the Bureau of Family Health and Nursing Services. She was Maternal and Child Health Program Director, and Alternate Response Activity Coordinator during times of typhoons and the Korean Airlines Flight 801 crash. She provided expert advice to department directors and senior leadership within the Government of Guam, including the Governor of Guam, and worked with local leaders to expand public health programs and nursing services in Guam and the Pacific region.

Fay retired from the Government of Guam in 2003 after 27 years of local government service when she was recruited by Naval Hospital Guam to be the Patient Safety Manager. She established and coordinated Naval Hospital's first Patient Safety Program that resulted in two successful accreditation surveys by The Joint Commission. In 2009 she transitioned to be the Breast Health Coordinator where she worked with medical staff, patients and their families to provide support and education to more than 300 women with breast health concerns. She is currently the Population Health Nurse who worked closely with medical providers and patients to bring Naval Hospital Guam to be among the Top 3 in Navy Medicine for several months.

Throughout her life, Fay has been an active member of our community. She is a member of numerous professional associations, and spearheaded initiatives to raise awareness of health issues and disease prevention on Guam and the Pacific region. She worked with the Government of Guam and community partners to establish the Hemophilia Foundation of Guam, where she served as a founding member, vice chairwoman and board member. She has served as the chair of the Guam Board of Nurse Examiners, Guam Interagency Consortium for Individuals with Special Needs, and

Pediatric Evaluation and Development Services, and she was Guam's Delegate to the National Association of School Nurses. She is also a former vice chair of the American Red Cross Guam Chapter, charter member of Soroptimist International of the Marianas, and member of the Guam Memorial Hospital Volunteers Association, among other organizations. Fay is also deeply involved in Guam's Catholic Church, as a member of the Christian Mothers, Legion of Mary Auxiliary, and Catholic Daughters of America.

Fay has had an exceptional career and has made our island a better place. I join our community in commending her for her tireless work to advance health issues on the island. On behalf of the people of Guam and a grateful nation, I extend my deepest appreciation to Fay Carbullido for her 40 years of dedicated service to our island and our country. I congratulate her on her retirement and I wish her the best as she begins the next chapter of her life. Thank you (Si Yu'os Ma'ase), Fay.

TRIBUTE TO MR. HAROLD  
BUCKLEY

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I present the following U.S. Citizen of Distinction:

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the leadership and service of Mr. Harold S. Buckley, Sr.; and

Whereas, Mr. Buckley served our nation with honor and valor in the United States Army. He demonstrated unquestionable leadership and courage as a soldier devoted in protecting our nation; and

Whereas, Mr. Buckley served and led our district in DeKalb County as a steadfast pillar of our community by being ever so watchful of issues that would hinder constituents. His 30-year tenure on the MARTA Board of Directors stands as the longest in the Authority's History. He served residential and commercial clients through his thriving real estate office; and

Whereas, Mr. Buckley advised many elected and appointed officials on issues concerning the public, he also promoted supporting local small businesses; and served as a history-making member of the DeKalb Board of Realtors; and

Whereas, he never asked for fame or fortune, nor found a job too small or too big; he gave of himself, his time, his talent and his life to uplift those in need by demonstrating unwavering commitment to protecting and serving the citizens of DeKalb County; and

Whereas, he was a husband, a father, a grandfather and friend; he was a man of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting and service of my district; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia recognizes Mr. Harold S. Buckley, Sr., as a citizen of great worth and so noted distinction; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby attest to the 114th Congress that Mr. Harold S. Buckley, Sr., is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Honor" by declaring Mr. Harold S. Buckley, Sr. U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 27th day of February, 2016.

HONORING THE 26TH ANNUAL  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
YOUTH ORATORICAL CONTEST

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 31st Annual King Day Celebration and the cornerstone of the event, the 26th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Oratorical Contest, hosted by the Prince William Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. will forever be engrained in our history as the formative figure in the quest for justice through civil dialogue. His legacy is one of tolerance despite the violence perpetrated against him and other leaders of the Civil Rights Movement. Responding through peaceful and principled communication to condemn the injustice of social and racial inequality, Dr. King worked tirelessly to establish a more united society. In his Letter from a Birmingham Jail, Dr. King highlighted the need for civility in order to establish equality. For his courage, vision, and perseverance, we celebrate Dr. King, not just for the man he was, but for his vision of the American Dream and what America can be.

Each year, residents of Prince William County gather to reflect upon the past year and receive a message of hope from the youth of today and leaders of tomorrow. Contestants in the MLK Youth Oratorical Contest pay homage to the legacy of Dr. King through their effective communication. The ability to communicate with passion and clarity will serve them well as they assume future leadership opportunities and establish the personal relationships necessary for community engagement.

I congratulate the following contestants in the 26th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Oratorical Contest:

Middle School Contestants

Jennifer Faruque—Stonewall Middle School

Zoree Jones—Ronald Reagan Middle School

Sunjum Mehta—Porter Traditional School

High School Contestants

Ja'Neese Jefferson—Manassas Park High School

Norman Jones—Stonewall Jackson High School

Nicholas Smith—Forest Park High School

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the Prince William Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. for showcasing the power of purposeful and meaningful communication reminiscent of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and in congratulating the talented contestants in the 2016 MLK Youth Oratorical Contest.

SPRINKLER FITTERS, LOCAL 550,  
100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sprinkler Fitters, Local 550, on

the occasion of their 100th Anniversary and to congratulate Business Manager Peter Gibbons as he leads the Sprinkler Fitters, Local 550, into their second century of excellence.

Mr. Speaker, on June 17, 1916, United Association General President, John R. Alpine, had the foresight to move the Sprinkler Fitters, Local 550, toward independence from one of the several auxiliary locals, to their now sister local Road Sprinkler Fitters, Local 669. During the United Association General Convention of 1946, the Sprinkler Fitters, Local 550, were awarded their autonomous status. After significant debate, the delegates voted to give the auxiliaries their independent status and made that status retroactive to the signing of each charter. In the case of Local 550, their status was retroactively dated on June 17, 1916.

Until 1993, Local 550 had offices at various locations in Boston and monthly union meetings were hosted in several different locations. On November 1, 1993, Sprinkler Fitters, Local 550, moved into their newly reconstructed home at 46 Rockland Street in West Roxbury, Massachusetts; a building which was large enough to house a union meeting hall. Ironically, the building was destroyed twice by fire damage during previous inceptions as the Leiderkranz German Club, and the Roberts Post, before Local 550 purchased the land and commenced renovations that included the installation of a working fire protection system. The purchase and renovations were overseen by the late Brother George McCarthy, who served as Business Manager for 30 years from 1974 until 2004 when current Business Manager, Financial Secretary, Peter Gibbons took office.

The Rockland Street location also served as the original home to the Local 550, Apprenticeship Training Facility until 2014 when, under the direction of Business Manager and Joint Apprenticeship Coordinator Peter Gibbons and the entire Joint Apprenticeship Committee, the apprentices were relocated to a new, state-of-the-art training center in Weymouth, Massachusetts. At present, apprentices are now trained in all aspects of the installation and inspection of fire protection systems, while capably providing the future workforce of Local 550. Among the many skills they learn, apprentices of Local 550 are provided with hands-on training using actual working fire pumps that flow water to facilitate training in the installation and inspection of all aspects of fire pumps. Included in the new training facility is a mock two-story house constructed within the training center where apprentices learn to plan and implement sprinkler installations. This hands-on approach fully prepares apprentices for real life situations that often arise on the job.

Mr. Speaker, there have been many changes in the industry since the Local's inception 100 years ago, but the one thing that has remained constant is the bond of the Union Brotherhood and Local 550's commitment to the communities they serve. Not only are there nearly 650 Local 550 hardworking brothers and sisters quick to lend a hand to fellow members, they are also known for their tremendous acts of selfless charitable giving to the many communities throughout the state. Local 550 members have donated their time and resources to many important community efforts. These projects include the Gavin Foundation, Chez-Vous Roller Rink, and Habitat for Humanity. In addition, Local 550 members sponsor a golf fundraiser; most recently

benefitting the Phoenix Society, which supports burn survivors.

Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of the Sprinkler Fitters, Local 550, 100th Anniversary Gala weekend held June 24 through June 26, 2016 in Boston, I rise to extend my congratulations and appreciation for Local 550's 100 years of service to the City of Boston and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. I look forward to continuing my work with the outstanding men and women of Sprinkler Fitters, Local 550, and wish them nothing but success for the next 100 years.

Congratulations on this momentous occasion.

TRIBUTE TO 2ND LT. GERALD  
"BUD" BERRY

**HON. DAVID W. JOLLY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Veteran 2nd Lieutenant Gerald "Bud" Berry for his actions during World War II and during D-Day, June 6, 1944.

2nd Lt. Berry was drafted in 1942 and signed up for the Aviation Cadet Program. It took him a year to complete the training and upon graduation, he earned his 2nd Lieutenant ranking. A couple months later, he was sent overseas to begin training for the Army Air Corps. There 2nd Lt. Berry was assigned a specialized flight plan to assist in the United States effort on D-Day.

He was assigned to towing gliders to the front and flying the 91st squadron of the 439th troop carrier group. He was responsible for flying the paratroopers over their designated landing zones, and for capturing any gliders that were in good enough shape to reuse. On D-Day, 2nd Lt. Berry was prepared and successfully completed his portion of the mission helping the Allied forces begin their surge to victory in the War.

I want to thank and acknowledge 2nd Lt. Gerald Berry for his honor, duty, and sacrifice for our country. He was a part of a mission that changed the course of history, and his efforts will be revered and remembered. I extend my deepest gratitude to 2nd Lt. Berry for his service. I ask that this body join me in recognizing him for his service.

HONORING THE 2016 FAIRFAX  
COUNTY STUDENT PEACE  
AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the recipients of the 2016 Fairfax County Student Peace Awards.

The program was begun in 2006 with the hope of moving people to think more about peace as both a means and an end, and to recognize young people who work as peace-makers. The program began with one high school and expanded gradually from there. In 2013, for the first time, it was offered to every public high school in Fairfax County, as well as to three private schools.

Participating high schools choose one Junior or Senior or one student group active in promoting peace and/or removing the causes of conflict. Examples of outreach include:

Committing to peace by engaging in activities that strive to end conflict, either locally or globally;

Seeking to discuss or otherwise resolve potentially controversial issues within the school or community;

Promoting the understanding of divisive issues and situations to bridge language, ethnic, racial, religious, gender, sexual orientation, or class differences; and

Working to resolve conflicts among students or members of the community who feel isolated or alienated.

I am pleased to submit the names of this year's Student Peace Award winners:

Anti-Bullying Committee, Cedar Lane School  
Jieru Shi, Senior, Chantilly High School  
Smriti Subedi, Senior, Herndon High School  
Laith Abuhaija, Senior, Islamic Saudi Academy

Renata Urbina De la Flor, Senior, Lake Braddock Secondary School

Catherine White, Senior, Langley High School

Cindy Le/Quan Lu, Seniors, Robert E. Lee High School

Kenzie Hines, Senior, James Madison High School

Doreen Ndizeye, Senior, George C. Marshall High School

Michelle Ma, Senior, McLean High School

Trevor Christensen, Senior, Mount Vernon High School

Student Contributors to The Mountain View Mirror Mountain View High School

Stepping Stones Club, Oakton High School

Sara Hobbs, Senior, Quander Road School

Burke Centre Library Teen Advisory Board

Robinson Secondary School

Kyle Engelhardt, Senior, South County High School

Aditi Takle, Senior, South Lakes High School

Sam Laveson, Senior, JEB Stuart High School

Kristin Myers, Junior, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology

Bennett Shoop, Senior, West Springfield High School

Logan Mannikko, Senior, Westfield High School

Daniel Kim, Junior, W.T. Woodson High School

Mr. Speaker, the efforts of these young people to build a more peaceful world in their own communities and the building blocks of a more peaceful world. I commend them on their awards and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating them and wishing them great success in all their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO JOYCE JORDAN

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I present the following U.S. Citizen of Distinction:

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the life of this extraordinary woman, who has

given of herself in order for others to stand; and

Whereas, Mrs. Joyce Ann Johnson Jordan's work is present in the lives of the many people she has touched during her time here on earth; a joyful woman who believed in living a life with no regrets. She loved to travel, dance and was a connoisseur of music; and

Whereas, this remarkable woman gave of her time, talent and life; she never asked for fame or fortune while uplifting those in need. She just wanted to do what was right; and

Whereas, Mrs. Jordan led by working behind the scenes for the causes that mattered to her the most; she loved God, her family and her friends; Mrs. Jordan was a warrior, a matriarch, a woman of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting of her family as a wife, sister and aunt; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to bestow a Congressional recognition on Mrs. Joyce Ann Johnson Jordan for her leadership, friendship and service to all of the citizens in Georgia and throughout the Nation; a citizen of great worth and so noted distinction; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby attest to the 114th Congress that Mrs. Joyce Ann Johnson Jordan of Georgia is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Honor" Mrs. Joyce Ann Johnson Jordan U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 2nd day of April, 2016.

HONORING THE MEMBERS OF  
RESCUE RESTON

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate the members of Rescue Reston on being named the 2015 Citizen of the Year by the Reston Citizens Association. The Citizen of the Year Award traditionally honors an individual or group of individuals who have contributed to the quality of life in Reston, helped others in need, or acted with the goals of Reston in mind without thought of personal benefit or recognition.

Rescue Reston is a grassroots organization comprised of thousands of Restonians who united to support preserving the Reston National Golf Course as open green space. Reston and the surrounding area have witnessed an explosion of growth and development in recent years. The preservation of public parks and open space is crucial in ensuring the high quality of life that is enjoyed by Fairfax County residents and honoring Reston's founding principles.

It is fitting that this award is given by one grassroots organization to another. It speaks yet again to the legacy that the founder of Reston, Robert E. Simon, leaves behind. I believe that such a high level of engagement is one of the best indicators of a healthy and vibrant community.

As a former civic association president, I am uniquely aware of the impact that these organizations can have, not only in their local community but also in the surrounding area. Their efforts give the members of that organization a sense of ownership and serve as a constant

reminder that a thoughtful, organized group of citizens can indeed bring about change.

Mr. Speaker, the efforts of Rescue Reston on behalf of the greater Reston community are selfless undertakings which are truly worthy of our highest praise. I commend them on their award and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating them and wishing them great success in all their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING AND CONGRATULATING DR. TOM SHIEH ON HIS 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF GUAM

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Dr. Thomas Shieh as he celebrates 20 years of service to the people of Guam. Dr. Shieh is the president and owner of Dr. Shieh's Clinic in Tamuning, Guam. Dr. Shieh's Clinic has served as one of Guam's leading clinics in women's services since 1999.

Dr. Shieh came to Guam by way of the U.S. Navy as a Medical Officer. He served in the Naval Hospital Guam for four years, and as the Chief of Gynecology for the last two years. After completion of his active duty service and falling in love with the island community, Dr. Shieh decided to make Guam his permanent home and opened a practice of his own. Since serving as an OB/GYN on Guam, Dr. Shieh has delivered over 8,000 babies. He is often recognized for being one of Guam's most accessible doctors. He keeps a close relationship with his patients and families and is always a phone call away. Not only does he care for his patients, he seeks to educate each woman about their health and medical needs. As a physician-owned practice, Dr. Shieh's Clinic is patient driven and practices the philosophy, "Patients First." He is a reliable consultant for thousands of patients and medical professionals on Guam and the Asia-Pacific Region. He has been able to maintain and grow his personal business for the past 16 years to build on his service from the Naval Hospital Guam and provide important services to the island.

As a board certified physician and fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Dr. Shieh is one of the most experienced and desired ob-gyns on the island. He serves as the president of the Guam Medical Association, comprised of more than 300 physicians, nurses and medical professionals. As a part of the Guam Medical Association, Dr. Shieh lobbies for legislation and policy to better the health care for the people of Guam. He works to bring the latest technology in health care and ensures that medications are available to provide best services to patients. Dr. Shieh was responsible for establishing the first ever bone marrow donor registration drive for Guam and increasing Pacific Islanders in the national database by 80 percent. He has also organized medical missions to help with relief efforts after natural disasters in the region.

Throughout his service on Guam, Dr. Shieh has always demonstrated a strong commitment to community involvement, volunteerism and philanthropy. Most notably, Dr. Shieh has

established a scholar athlete scholarship fund to assist students pursue higher education. He also sponsors an annual volleyball tournament and organizes health fairs and outreach events in the community.

Again, I congratulate Dr. Shieh, his wife Raven, daughters Tiffany and Beverly, and Dr. Shieh's Clinic on 20 years of service to the people of Guam. I join the people of Guam in commending them for their service and dedication, and thanking them for their many contributions to our island community.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$19,252,984,535,317.64. We've added \$8,626,107,486,404.56 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$8.6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2016 ASIAN-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EXCELLENCE AWARDS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Asian-American Chamber of Commerce and the recipients of the 2016 Excellence Awards.

The Asian-American Chamber of Commerce (AACC) is dedicated to improving economic development opportunities for Asian Pacific American-owned businesses in the Washington, D.C., region. The 11th District of Virginia is blessed by its diversity. About 1 in 4 residents are foreign born and approximately 40 percent are minorities. Half of our foreign-born population emigrated from Asia, and more than 80,000 of our neighbors speak an Asian language at home.

Northern Virginia has a robust international business community and is home to the largest concentration of minority-owned technology firms in the nation. The AACC and its members contribute greatly to our economic strength and stability; Asian-American businesses generate more than 52 percent of total revenues generated by all minority owned businesses in this region.

In Fairfax County alone, 25,000 businesses are Asian-owned. These businesses generate approximately \$9 billion in revenue and create 54,000 jobs.

Each year, the AACC recognizes businesses and non-profits in the Asian American community for their outstanding contributions to the Metropolitan Washington community and economy. I am pleased to submit the names of the following individuals and organizations:

Citizen of the Year  
Ruth Crout, Fred Plum  
Young Professional of the Year  
Frank Chin  
New Member of the Year  
Dave and Joanne Adams  
Laura Drain  
Member of the Year  
Shakha Agrawal  
Business of the Year  
Kyllo and Pattana Cox  
Non-Profit of the Year  
Youth for Tomorrow  
Epoch Times  
Asian Business Leader of the Year  
Grace Kim  
Jimmy Rhee  
Chairman's Award  
Audrey Lustre  
Oanh Henry

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the recipients of the 2016 Asian-American Chamber of Commerce Excellence Awards and in commending the Chamber for its work to support Asian and Pacific Islander owned businesses throughout our region.

TRIBUTE TO BETTY BAISDEN

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, reaching the age of 80 years is a remarkable milestone; and

Whereas, Mrs. Betty Jane Baisden was born on March 19, 1936 and today she is celebrating that milestone; and

Whereas, Mrs. Baisden has been blessed with a long, happy life, devoted to God and credits it all to the Will of God; she has been a devoted Christian since her childhood days to present as President of the Mothers Board at Mt. Vernon Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia; and

Whereas, Mrs. Baisden is celebrating her 80th Birthday with her family members, church members and friends here in Georgia, she celebrates a life of blessings; as a Mother, Grandmother, friend, community servant and leader; and

Whereas, the Lord has been her Shepherd throughout her life and she prays daily and is leading by example a blessed life; an advocate, faithful matriarch and a community leader; and

Whereas, we are honored that she is celebrating the milestone of her 80th birthday in the 4th District of Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mrs. Betty Jane Baisden for an exemplary life which is an inspiration to all; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim March 19, 2016 as Mrs. Betty Jane Baisden Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 19th day of March, 2016.



TRIBUTE TO DALE K. JOHNSON,  
RANDALL KAHLE, AND RONNIE  
BENNETT

### HON. DAVID W. JOLLY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize three members of our community, Mr. Dale K. Johnson, Mr. Randall Kahle, and Mr. Ronnie Bennett for being selected by the St. Petersburg Civitan Club as citizens of Pinellas whose work for the community exemplifies the club's pillars of service, fellowship, and knowledge.

Civitan International is an association of volunteer service clubs that started in 1917 and now has more than 40,000 members across the country and internationally. The mission of this collection of groups is to build good citizenship by creating a volunteer network of service clubs that address individual and community needs. They specialize in serving people with developmental disabilities.

The St. Petersburg chapter was established on April 12, 1921, and for the past 95 years it has been a part of many efforts to support children and adults who require extra assistance due to a disability.

Since 1986, the St. Petersburg chapter has honored and recognized outstanding members of the Police and Fire departments of the area. This year, the three honorees are: Police Field Training Officer Dale K. Johnson, Fire Officer Randall Kahle, and Firefighter Ronnie Bennett. These three have exemplified the high standards of the Civitan Club, serving people across Pinellas who are especially in need of assistance. I am very happy to have them as my neighbors here in Pinellas County.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge these three exceptional individuals for their hard work. They are most deserving of this recognition from the Civitan Club and I hope they continue to support those in need within Pinellas County. I ask that this body join me in thanking these three exceptional individuals for their exceptional service.

HONORING THE SHEPHERD'S  
CENTER OF OAKTON-VIENNA

### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the volunteers of the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna and to thank them for their many contributions to the Northern Virginia community. Organized in 1997, the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna (SCOV) is a non-profit that provides services to help older adults continue living independently, and it offers programs that supply opportunities for enrichment, learning, and socialization.

Every year, approximately 200 volunteers support older residents who want to age in place in their homes and stay engaged in social activities. Services are available free of charge to anyone age 50 or older who resides in the local community.

Last year was a particularly successful year for SCOV, whose volunteer drivers provided

more than 1,400 round-trip rides for medical reasons and other errands. Volunteers also made regular contact with individuals who may have limited interaction and may feel isolated in their homes. "Handy Helpers" made minor home repairs to help older adults keep their homes safe and livable. The Health Team provided individual health counseling, referral to community resources, and blood pressure readings.

All told, SCOV served more than 3,000 individuals in 2015. Volunteers also run programs such as Lunch n' Life, Adventures in Learning, trips and outings, special events, and caregivers' support groups. In 2014, SCOV was recognized for these efforts as an Outstanding Volunteer Caregiving Program by the National Volunteer Caregiving Network.

The services and programs offered by this extraordinary organization help to ensure that our seniors stay connected to the community through the promotion of active lifestyles, ongoing social integration, and availability of resources for older residents to use and share their experience, training, and skills.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the Shepherd Center of Oakton-Vienna for its work to enable older adults in our community to age in place and enjoy their golden years with dignity and independence. I thank the many volunteers who generously dedicate their time and efforts to the welfare of our neighbors. The value of their contributions cannot be overstated and are deserving of our highest praise.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. ANDREA  
P. THAU, AMERICAN OPTO-  
METRIC ASSOCIATION PRESI-  
DENT-ELECT

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Andrea P. Thau, a physician whose practice is located in the district I represent. Dr. Thau has been elected the 94th President of the American Optometric Association, AOA, and will begin her term during the AOA 119th annual meeting on July 2, 2016, in Boston.

Dr. Thau is a graduate of the SUNY College of Optometry and is the owner of a private practice in Manhattan. She was first elected to the American Optometric Association Board of Trustees in 2007, and elected President-Elect at the 118th Annual AOA Congress & 45th Annual AOSA Conference: Optometry's Meeting in June 2015. In addition to her leadership in this national organization, Dr. Thau has made great contributions in service to her state and local community. Dr. Thau was the first woman president of the New York State Optometric Association, the New York Academy of Optometry, and the Optometric Society of the City of New York.

Along with her many leadership roles, Dr. Thau is also an advocate and educator in the field. A champion for children's vision, Dr. Thau has advocated on their behalf both statewide and nationally. She is also a founding member and former vice president of the New York Children's Vision Coalition. As a spokesperson for the American Optometric

Association, she has been featured on television, radio and in print to educate the public about eye and vision care.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Andrea Thau as she begins her term as President of the American Optometric Association. I am proud to join her friends and colleagues in congratulating her on this outstanding professional achievement.

TRIBUTE TO EVA NEWSOME

### HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, one hundred years ago a virtuous woman of God, Eva Bell Hicks Newsome was born in Reynolds, Taylor County, Georgia on April 16, 1916 to Mr. Ezekiel and Mrs. Mahalia Hicks; and

Whereas, she grew up in Reynolds, Georgia and was married to Mr. LB Newsome, Sr. for 76 years; their union has blessed our district and nation with four children and a host of grand, great, great-great and great-great-great grandchildren; and

Whereas, this phenomenal Proverbs 31 woman has shared her time and talents as a wife, mother and friend, becoming a Georgia citizen of great worth, a fearless leader and a servant to all by always advancing the lives of others; and

Whereas, Mrs. Newsome has been blessed with a long, happy life, devoted to God and credits it all to the Will of God; and

Whereas, Mrs. Newsome is celebrating a remarkable milestone; her 100th Birthday. Her family and friends are pausing to acknowledge a woman who has been revered by many as a pillar of her community; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and extend well wishes to Mrs. Newsome on her birthday and recognize her for an exemplary life that has been an inspiration to all; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim April 16, 2016 as Mrs. Eva Bell Hicks Newsome Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 16th day of April, 2016.

RECOGNIZING PRINCE WILLIAM  
COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FIRE  
AND RESCUE RECRUIT CLASS  
2015-02

### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the 2015-02 Prince William County Public Safety Training Center graduates. As they prepare to join the ranks of the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue, which is celebrating its 50th year, I encourage the 21 graduates to reflect on the history of the department and the contributions and dedication of the brave men and women who have served to protect our community for the last half century.



Each member of recruit class 2015–02 has successfully completed a rigorous application process followed by 1,248 hours of exhaustive academic and physical training over the course of 26 weeks. Upon successful completion of this program, each recruit is eligible to graduate and become a Fire and Rescue Technician I with the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue.

A Technician I is trained in emergency medical services, fire prevention, and countless other public safety measures. The certifications required for reaching the status of a Technician I cannot be accomplished without dedication and hard work. The graduates have completed the requisite coursework for certification in CPR, Infection Control, CISM, EMTB, Firefighter I, Firefighter II, EVOC 2, EVOC 3, Flashover Simulation, RIT, Mayday, Hazmat Awareness/Operations, Swift Water Rescue Awareness, LPG with Simulation, Rural Water Supply, BLS Protocols, Rope Rescue Awareness, Vehicle Rescue Awareness and Child Passenger Safety Seat Installation.

It is my honor to submit the following names of the 2015–02 recruit class graduates of the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue:

Matthew Baker, Zachary Burnette, John Campbell, Matthew Cone, Nathan Eppley, Tyler Fable, Jason Guimond, Patrick McKinnon, Nicholas Ntinos, Brian Pelletier, Zachary Ramey, Dontrell Royal, Andrew Ruddie, Daniel Sawyer, Joshua Servais, Brian Smith, James Spengler, Andrew Turner, Chase Walton, Daniel Worrell, Austin Wing

As the newest members of the Department of Fire and Rescue, the 2015–02 recruit class graduates join the department as integral parts of the emergency response and community safety team. Just as the current and past Prince William County public safety officers have done, I am confident that this graduating class will serve the residents of Prince William County with honor and distinction.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the newest members of the Prince William County Department of Fire and Rescue. I thank them in advance for their dedication to protecting the lives and property of the county's residents. In the tradition of their new firefighting family I say: "Stay safe."

**HONORING BAKER COUNTY COMMISSIONER TIM KERNS FOR HIS YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO OREGON**

**HON. GREG WALDEN**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my good friend Commissioner Tim Kerns for his many years of dedicated public service in Baker County. Tim is set to retire at the end of his term after serving 15 years as Baker County Commissioner, and I would like to pay tribute to his leadership for the people of Baker County.

Born in Baker City, Tim was raised with an appreciation for agriculture on his family farm which led him to attend Oregon State University to pursue a degree in Agricultural Engineering at a notable pace, completing 206 credit hours in just four years. But probably

the best part of his time at Oregon State was meeting Jan—his wife of 52 years. Upon completing their degrees, Tim and Jan returned to ranching in Baker County.

As his operation grew, so did Tim's desire to serve his community. His ability to provide innovative solutions to the problems that Baker County faced proved invaluable in a number of leadership roles, including serving on the school district budget board, as president of both the Baker County Livestock Growers and Farm Bureau, and as Regional Vice President of the Oregon Cattleman's Association.

Tim's familiarity with the agricultural industry and community leadership experience next led him to become a major figure in the national farm lending system. Between 1975 and 1994 he was a board member of a number of farm lenders, including the Baker Production Credit Association, Spokane Farm Credit Services, and Inter State Production Credit Association. Following success in those roles, he was appointed to a three year term as Director of the national Federal Farm Credit Funding Corporation. After completing his dual term with the Ag America Farm Credit Bank and the Farm Credit Funding Corporation, Tim was appointed to fill a vacant seat with the county commission, a seat which he has held for the past 15 years.

With federal lands making up more than 51% of Baker County, plenty of hurdles exist in the path to economic growth. Despite these hurdles, I know I can count on Tim's work ethic and knowledge of Baker County to help work through these issues and make sure that the needs of the local communities will not be ignored by the federal government. Whether it was stopping the EPA from regulating a local cement plant out of existence and killing hundreds of jobs, or some of the ongoing problems such as the red tape cutting off Baker County miners from being a part of a rich local mining history, or attempts to limit local access to national forests, I knew I could count on Tim to provide valuable input as we craft solutions.

As Tim begins his transition into retirement, I know he and Jan will look forward to more time with their two sons and three grandchildren, as well as plenty of time on the ranch and volunteering in various Baker County activities.

Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, please join me in recognizing and thanking my good friend, Commissioner Tim Kerns for his many years of leadership and service to Baker County.

**RECOGNIZING THE LOUISIANA VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS' (VFW) 2016 STATE CONVENTION IN ALEXANDRIA, LA**

**HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Louisiana Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) for a successful 2016 State Convention in Alexandria, LA.

Our veterans are a national treasure. These men and women have sacrificed tremendously, many continuing to live with service-

connected disabilities, in service to our country. Without their courageous decision to answer the call of duty, our nation would not be the shining beacon of hope and freedom we are today. As we continue working to improve healthcare delivery and expand healthcare services for our veterans, the VFW will continue to be an important partner in organizing and advocating for our veterans across the country.

I also want to express my pride and congratulations that Louisiana was selected to host the 2017 VFW National Convention in New Orleans, LA. I am confident those attending next year's convention will experience the rich culture and hospitality during their stay that makes us proud to call Louisiana home.

I remain committed to working with the Louisiana VFW to ensure they are represented on the local and national levels. Their tireless efforts and advocacy in support of veterans in Louisiana and across the country are tremendously appreciated.

**HONORING THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA VETERANS ASSOCIATION**

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of the one-year anniversary of the Northern Virginia Veterans Association.

The Northern Virginia Veterans Association (NOVA Vets) officially launched on May 16, 2015, Armed Forces Day. With a diverse membership comprised of veterans, active military, service connected family members, community residents, and businesses, NOVA Vets' mission is to provide veterans with a comprehensive network of local resources by providing a continuum of services. Specifically, NOVA Vets provides care and support in the areas of reintegration, healthcare, employment, education, family/caregiver support, legal services, housing assistance, and community engagement.

Signature programs include offering reintegration programs at Fort Belvoir and Marine Corps Base Quantico, military care and resource training for civilian medical/healthcare providers, suicide awareness, and Veterans Helping Veterans.

Reintegration Program: Each reintegration program provides 24 months of comprehensive support to service members and their families relocating to or staying in Northern Virginia to ease the transition from activity duty. Over the course of the two-year cycle, data collection is used to determine what areas of support are needed to ensure comprehensive support and quality of life.

Military Care and Healthcare Resource Training Program: The in-person training provides insight and details needed to effectively treat and communicate with the veteran and military population. In addition, civilian health care providers are educated on health resources available at the local, state, and federal levels for veterans and service-connected members of the community.

Suicide Awareness Program: Throughout the year, NOVA Vets offer suicide prevention initiatives to include the screening of military

documentaries and Mental Health First-Aid classes to ensure people are educated on the signs and symptoms of potential suicide and know how to assist a veteran, friend, family member, neighbor, or co-worker in a time of crisis.

Veterans Helping Veterans Program: The program is a formalized network providing skill-based veteran volunteers with non-profits who assist veterans both directly and indirectly.

It is my honor to submit the names of the charter members of the Northern Virginia Veterans Association:

Angela McConnell, Doug Earhart, Tom Benjamin, Scott Cox, Carol McKnight, Matt Paschal, Greg Schumacher, Kathy Schumacher, Rick Bockes, Polly Sherard, Rich Nagel, Rick Haney, Toby Terrill, Cameron Dougherty, Robin Kelleher, Gwendolyn Bush, Larry Zilliox, Henry Patterson, Mike May, Emma Artis, Lee D'Orlando, Diana Paguaga, Cindy Fox, Anthony Garris, Gerald Mazur, Rob Cork, Mike Allen, Mina Little, Dave Mather, Daniela Horsman, Jerome Atger, Brooke Ray, Aminata Jah, Marianne Catina, Al Alborn, Stephen Prasser, Erika Laos, Don Howell, John Murray, Ariel Goldchain, Christine Garris, Hope For The Warriors, HealthSouth Hospital, Semper K9, Access National Bank, VITAS Hospital, Core Chiropractic, Fauquier Chamber of Commerce, Neighbor's Keeper, Brain Injury Services, Fauquier Economic Development Center, Catocin Estate Planning, Freedom Museum, Juncture Consulting, Habitat for Humanity-Prince William County, Atlantic Low Vision, Quarterly Advisory Committee Motorcycle Collaborative, Project Mend A House, The Better Brain Center, Volunteers of America, Men of War Motorcycle Club, Action in Community Through Service of Prince William, Inc., American Red Cross, Comfort Keepers, and Hylton Performing Arts Center.

Veterans can often feel abandoned and confused after being discharged. Navigating the maze of services and programs that are available can be daunting, and reintegrating into civilian life can be overwhelming. These factors, especially when combined with the effects of traumatic brain injury or post-traumatic stress disorder, can lead to depression, substance abuse, anger management issues, and even suicide. This is why programs like NOVA Vets are so important and deserving of our support.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the individuals, organizations, and businesses that comprise the Northern Virginia Veterans Association and in thanking them for their dedication and commitment to our veteran community.

#### TRIBUTE TO DEKALB COUNTY NAACP

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**  
OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, since 1955, the DeKalb County branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has been a worthy instrument for good; and

Whereas, the DeKalb County branch of the NAACP is celebrating sixty one years at

Green Forest Community Baptist Church in Decatur, Georgia; and

Whereas, this organization is a champion for civil rights throughout our county and state, ensuring the rights and liberties of our citizens in Georgia are guaranteed through the U.S. Constitution; and

Whereas, its members give of themselves tirelessly and unconditionally to serve our community through endeavors such as voter registration, health walks, mentorships and scholarships; and

Whereas, the lives of many in our district are touched by the leadership and service given by the officers and members of the DeKalb County NAACP, our nation and the world is a better place due to their commitment to excellence in all of their endeavors; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize their outstanding service to our District; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim April 9, 2016 as DeKalb County NAACP Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 9th day of April, 2016.

#### HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF UNITED STATES ARMY SPECIALIST BRANDON A. BANNER OF MILTON, FLORIDA

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on June 2, 2016, nine soldiers were taken from us during the tragic training accident at Fort Hood, Texas. A grateful and grieving Nation mourn the tremendous loss of these fine men and women, and it is with profound sadness that I rise to honor them and pay a special tribute to United States Army Specialist Brandon A. Banner of Milton, Florida.

SPC Banner graduated from Milton High School in 2013 where he played defensive end on the school's football team. He also attended Pensacola State College before joining the Army in March 2014 as a motor transport operator. In July 2014, SPC Banner was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 16th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood.

Fort Hood had been experiencing unprecedented levels of rainfall and flash flooding when on Thursday morning, June 2, while SPC Banner and members of his unit were conducting convoy operations, their Light Medium Tactical Vehicle overturned at Owl Creek and all nine were killed. SPC Banner was 22 years old.

Amongst his Army Family, SPC Banner was known to be a loyal and faithful friend who was determined and was destined for great success. His military career may have been short-lived, but as evidenced by his several awards including the National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Korea Defense Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon and the Marksmanship Qualification Badge—Sharpshooter with Carbine, it was a career during which SPC Banner displayed an unwavering commitment to duty and excellence.

Mr. Speaker, our servicemembers know full well the risk involved when they join the greatest military in the world. Yet they do it anyway and for a cause greater than their own. We owe these soldiers and their families our everlasting gratitude and our greatest respect. Vicki and I join citizens all across Northwest Florida and our great Nation in praying for the family and friends of Specialist Brandon A. Banner and his eight comrades. May the service and selfless sacrifice of these warriors never be forgotten and may God continue to bless all members of the Armed Forces and the United States of America.

#### TRIBUTE TO HAMILTON ASSOCIATES, P.C.

**HON. DAVID YOUNG**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Paul Hamilton and Mr. Eric Hamilton of Council Bluffs, Iowa, father and son owners of Hamilton Associates, P.C. which is celebrating 60 years in business in 2016. Hamilton Associates, P.C. is a certified public accounting and consulting firm.

Hamilton Associates, P.C. is a family-owned business providing services to businesses, non-profits and individuals specializing in tax management, financial, and accounting services. Paul Hamilton said he is very proud of the quality service his firm provides to its clients. Eric Hamilton added that the best part of his job is being able to give back to the community. Paul, Eric, and staff take an active role in civic, community, and volunteer activities in the Council Bluffs area. Hamilton Associates is growing and recently acquired a firm in Omaha, Nebraska, which will double the business in the next five years. Paul said his goal is to keep the business presence strong in the area, continue to practice honest business values, and continue investing in the community.

I commend and congratulate Paul Hamilton and Eric Hamilton for their many years of dedicated and devoted service to Council Bluffs and the surrounding area. Paul and Eric make a difference by helping and serving others. It is with great honor that I recognize them today. I know that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in honoring their accomplishments and I wish them and their family and staff continued success in the future.

#### "TURN THE PAGE" LITERACY INITIATIVE

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, every summer youth without access to books lose academic skills, while those who are reading continue to make progress in developing their proficiency. Studies show that summer learning loss is a significant cause of the achievement gap between lower and higher-income youth. Students from low-income households learn at

the same rate as their peers while school is in session, but while middle and upper-income students show slight gains in their reading performance after the summer months, lower income students experience a two-month loss in reading achievement.

It is what teachers refer to as the “summer slide” or “summer setback.” This loss is cumulative: while teachers spend 4–6 weeks re-teaching material to the students who have fallen behind over the summer, other students are progressing with their skills. The result? By the end of the sixth grade, children who lose reading skills during the summer are on average 2 years behind their peers. Even more startling is the conclusion of University of Nevada research, which has shown that students without access to books are less likely to complete their basic education.

The simple fact is that there are fewer opportunities for daily summer reading when both parents are away at work. Without access to books, our kids fall behind.

My daughter teaches English at Baylor University. She has dedicated her life to edifying the young people of this country by instilling in them a love for reading, and for the intellectual tradition it gives them access to. This love needs to start early, and the inheritance of that tradition should be accessible to all Americans. That is why I am proud of the efforts of KHOU and Star Furniture, who are rolling out a new community effort to increase the literacy rate in Houston. They are soliciting donations for the non-profit group “Books Between Kids,” which provides at-risk children with books that they can keep in their home. We need more programs like this in our country. And that’s just the way it is.

#### TRIBUTE TO KELLY KOCH

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Kelly Koch, of Wauke, Iowa, on being crowned Miss Iowa 2016.

Miss Koch recently started competing in pageants as late as 2014, and was the runner-up Miss Iowa 2015. There are five categories for which contestants are judged. She was a preliminary talent winner with her ballet en point, telling the local newspaper, Dallas County News, that she spent at least two hours daily each week with her choreographer to perfect every detail. She was attuned to national and international news in preparation for the interview portion of the pageant. During her year of service as Miss Iowa, Miss Koch chose the Pinky Swear Foundation, which provides financial and emotional support to families whose children are afflicted with cancer. Earlier, Kelly Koch had served as an intern for the organization and has a great affection for its mission.

In her service as Miss Iowa and to fulfill her obligations to the Miss Iowa organization, Kelly Koch will temporarily suspend her studies at Iowa State University where she is a member of the I.S.U. Dance Team. In September, she will represent Iowa in Miss USA set for Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Kelly Koch for this recognition. I am proud to

represent her in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Miss Koch and wishing her nothing but success over the coming year and beyond.

#### CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF FARM CREDIT

SPEECH OF

### HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 14, 2016*

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the centennial of the Farm Credit System.

The Farm Credit System was established by Congress through the Federal Farm Loan Act of 1916 which was signed into law by President Woodrow Wilson. Next month will mark the centennial of this vital network.

I was pleased to cosponsor House Resolution 591, introduced by House Agriculture Committee Chairman MIKE CONAWAY and Ranking Member COLLIN PETERSON—commending the cooperative owners and employees of the Farm Credit System for their important contributions over the last century.

Congress designed the Farm Credit System as a network of cooperatives that would be able to respond to the needs of farmers and rural communities.

My district covers an important agricultural area in Central New York. The 24th District of New York is home to some of the most productive fruit, vegetable, dairy and diversified farms in the state. According to the census of agriculture, Cayuga County ranks second in the state and Wayne County ranks fifth in terms of the value of agricultural production. Farms in my district are served by Farm Credit East, which has over \$4 billion in loan commitments to its nearly 9,000 customers in New York.

As part of its centennial celebration, Farm Credit sponsored the Fresh Perspectives program to identify 100 leaders that are making a difference in rural America. Leaders were nominated in 10 different categories. From the top 100 list, a top honoree in each category was selected. I’m proud to say that Christine Fesko, of Skaneateles, NY was selected as the top honoree in the category of Agriculture Education and Community Impact.

In addition to running a 600 cow dairy farm with her family, Chris operates the Discovery Center where children, who wouldn’t otherwise be able to see a working farm, can learn about agriculture. She has also produced a series of award-winning educational videos to teach children about agriculture and modern farming practices. She was elected to the Farm Credit East board of directors where she served from 2003 to 2016.

As the Farm Credit System celebrates its centennial, I want to recognize farmers like Chris who have made this cooperative system strong as it begins its next 100 years.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF CLIVE

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Clive, Iowa for its recognition as a 2015 Tree City USA sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service’s Urban and Community Forestry program (the Forest Service).

The City of Clive has met the core standards for tree care during the past year. Over 135 million Americans live in Tree USA communities. In its 40th year of celebration, the Tree City USA program is critical to the U.S. Forest Service. This federal partner delivers technical and financial resources to states, cities and communities across the nation with each community adhering to a State Action Plan, guiding investments in each state while accomplishing local projects and programs.

The U.S. Forest Service and Arbor Day Foundation cooperate with communities to establish healthy forests, improve air and water quality and contribute to important national energy conservation goals. These local investments create long term major environmental improvements nationwide.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the City of Clive and urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the community on this award and in wishing them nothing but continued success.

#### GENERAL LEAVE—FARM CREDIT CENTENNIAL REMARKS—NEW YORK 22ND DISTRICT

### HON. RICHARD L. HANNA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the cooperative owners and employees of the Farm Credit System for meeting the credit and financial-services needs of rural communities and agriculture for 100 years.

I was pleased to cosponsor House Resolution 591 commemorating the Farm Credit System centennial. Congress designed the Farm Credit System as a permanent means to support the well-being and prosperity of the Nation’s rural communities and agricultural producers of all types and sizes. Congress designed the Farm Credit System as a network of cooperatives, independently owned and controlled by its borrowers, responsive to their individual needs for credit and financial services.

Farm Credit East serves many farmers in my district through their offices in Cortland and Sangerfield. Further, the Farm Credit system actively supports our next generation of farmers with agriculture education and support for organizations like 4-H and Future Farmers of America.

One of Farm Credit East’s recent stewardship initiatives focuses on improving ag education. One of the top FFA chapters and ag education programs in the state of New York

is located in my district at Vernon-Verona Sherrill High School—VVS.

In honor of the Farm Credit System centennial, Farm Credit East has committed substantial resources toward teacher scholarships to attend institutes sponsored by the Curriculum for Agricultural Science Education (CASE), a program of the National Association of Agricultural Educators.

The CASE program trains ag educators how to deliver hands on, STEM-based learning to agricultural students in subjects like plant and animal science. As a strong supporter of STEM education, I understand how valuable these investments in our children's education are, and I am grateful for their generous participation in this critical area of study.

Farm Credit East recently announced 15 teacher scholarships to attend CASE institutes, including Paul Perry and Sara Tuthill from VVS. Two other recipients are also from the 22nd district—Crystal Aukema from Oxford and Johanna Fox-Bossard from Hamilton.

VVS will be hosting an institute this summer to instruct educators on teaching the CASE introductory course: Introduction to Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources. Eleven of the Farm Credit East scholarship recipients will be attending this program.

I applaud Farm Credit's support of ag educators as they train the next generation of farmers. No doubt many of those students will become members of Farm Credit during its second century of service. Congratulations to the Farm Credit System's cooperative owners and employees on the System's centennial.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF CLARINDA

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Clarinda, Iowa for its recognition as a 2015 Tree City USA sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry program (the Forest Service).

The City of Clarinda has met the core standards for tree care during the past year. Over 135 million Americans live in Tree USA communities. In its 40th year of celebration, the Tree City USA program is critical to the U.S. Forest Service. This federal partner delivers technical and financial resources to states, cities and communities across the nation with each community adhering to a State Action Plan, guiding investments in each state while accomplishing local projects and programs.

The U.S. Forest Service and Arbor Day Foundation cooperate with communities to establish healthy forests, improve air and water quality and contribute to important national energy conservation goals. These local investments create long term major environmental improvements nationwide.

I commend the City of Clarinda and urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the community on this award and in wishing them nothing but continued success.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT  
OF K.L. "KOVEN" BROWN

#### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize the retirement of K.L. "Koven" Brown.

Mr. Brown will be selling his two businesses, K.L. Brown Funeral Home and Cremation Center, which he has owned since 1978, and K.L. Brown Memory Chapel, at the end of this month.

Mr. Brown wanted to be a mortician since he was a young boy. He graduated from Jefferson Davis High School in Montgomery in 1969, and was the first graduating class from Kentucky School of Mortuary Science in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1971.

Mr. Brown is in his second term in the Alabama House of Representatives and is looking forward to traveling more with his wife, Mande, now that he is retiring.

Mr. Brown has two children: Allison (deceased) and Emily who is married to James Avery. He is blessed with four grandchildren: Charlie, Austin, Savannah and Tyler. His mother, Dr. Faye Brown, lives in Clanton.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing K.L. Brown and congratulating him on his much-deserved retirement.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF COUNCIL BLUFFS

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Council Bluffs, Iowa for its recognition as a 2015 Tree City USA sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry program (the Forest Service).

The City of Council Bluffs has met the core standards for tree care during the past year. Over 135 million Americans live in Tree USA communities. In its 40th year of celebration, the Tree City USA program is critical to the U.S. Forest Service. This federal partner delivers technical and financial resources to states, cities and communities across the nation with each community adhering to a State Action Plan, guiding investments in each state while accomplishing local projects and programs.

The U.S. Forest Service and Arbor Day Foundation cooperate with communities to establish healthy forests, improve air and water quality and contribute to important national energy conservation goals. These local investments create long term major environmental improvements nationwide.

I commend the City of Council Bluffs and urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the community on this award and in wishing them nothing but continued success.

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL  
ANNIVERSARY OF FARM CREDIT

SPEECH OF

#### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 14, 2016*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Farm Credit system in America.

The Farm Credit System in America was established 100 years ago through the Federal Farm Loan Act of 1916, signed into law on July 17, 1916, by President Woodrow Wilson.

It was founded to provide lending opportunities for American farmers, ranchers and dairy men; those who till the soil to put food on American dinner tables every night.

Congress intended the Farm Credit System be designed as a permanent means to support the well-being and prosperity of the nation's rural communities and agricultural producers of all types and sizes.

Further, it was designed as a network of co-operatives, independently owned and controlled by its borrowers, responsive to their individual needs for credit and financial services and continually adapting to meet the changing needs of rural communities and agriculture.

Through the success of the Farm Credit organizations throughout this country, such as Fresno-Madera Farm Credit and Yosemite Farm Credit we celebrate 100 years of that successful ability to make loans to young and old farmers alike, those just starting out or those who have been farming for generations.

And to those who in every region of America do their best to produce the healthiest, most nutritious and bountiful crops anywhere grown in the world.

The Farm Credit System today plays a vital role in the success of United States agriculture and the economic vibrancy of rural communities throughout all 50 States and Puerto Rico, providing more than \$237 billion in loans to more than 500,000 customers.

This is so American consumers can enjoy those food products at lowest cost value possible.

Clearly we know the success of American agriculture is in large part due to the success Farm Credit across the country.

We commend the Farm Credit System for their efforts and celebrate 100 years of making America the most productive agriculture country in the world.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF ADEL

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Adel, Iowa for its recognition as a 2015 Tree City USA sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry program (the Forest Service).

The City of Adel has met the core standards for tree care during the past year. Over 135 million Americans live in Tree USA communities. In its 40th year of celebration, the Tree

City USA program is critical to the U.S. Forest Service. This federal partner delivers technical and financial resources to states, cities and communities across the nation with each community adhering to a State Action Plan, guiding investments in each state while accomplishing local projects and programs.

The U.S. Forest Service and Arbor Day Foundation cooperate with communities to establish healthy forests, improve air and water quality and contribute to important national energy conservation goals. These local investments create long term major environmental improvements nationwide.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the City of Adel and urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the community on this award and wishing them nothing but continued success.

2ND LIEUTENANT AUDIE MURPHY—  
TUESDAYS IN TEXAS

### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Medal of Honor is the highest military honor that can be bestowed on an American. Harry Truman once commented that he would prefer to have the blue band of the Medal of Honor around his neck than be President. To receive the medal is not to win a contest, for the forum in which this medal is given is the contest to preserve liberty. It is a contest that no individual competitor could win; rather it is struggled for by the diligence, bravery, and sacrifice of millions of Americans. Nor is it a contest that is ever finished. It is an eternal struggle. Every generation of Americans has given of her sons and daughters to contribute to it. That is why Medal of Honor recipients are never said to have "won" the honor, but they have received it from a grateful nation, out of recognition of their distinguished contribution to our shared and continued fight for freedom.

Next week, Farmersville, TX, a small town in Hunt County, will celebrate the life of one of its sons, who came home the most decorated soldier of WWII. Audie Murphy's story of service starts early. When he was only 17 years old he had his sister assist him in falsifying his birth certificate so that he could meet the minimum age requirement for enlisting in the military. Like millions of Americans in the mid 40's, Murphy was eager to answer the call of his country.

Before long Murphy earned the rank of 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army and was given command of Company B. In France during the early winter of 1945, Murphy's company was attacked by 6 German tanks and waves of infantry. Murphy ordered his men back into the cover of the woods, while he remained forward to give firing directions to artillery by telephone. Murphy then climbed into a burning tank and, despite the risk that the tank could explode at any moment, he began to use its .50 caliber machine gun to ward off the enemy. Murphy was alone and exposed to enemy fire on three sides. Against all odds, he succeeded in single-handedly holding the enemy back for an hour.

The citation that comes with Murphy's Medal of Honor, awarded for his actions that

day, tells us that despite a gunshot wound to the leg he fought until his ammunition was exhausted. He then made his way back to his company, refusing medical attention, and organized a counter attack that would prove successful and force the Germans to withdraw.

The contest for freedom is not a sprint. It is a relay that spans generations, and the champions of each generation should be honored for their service and sacrifice. We owe a debt of gratitude to all of those who fight for our freedom, and we honor individuals like 2nd Lt. Audie Murphy for their distinguished contribution.

And that is just the way it is.

### TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF ATLANTIC

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Atlantic, Iowa for its recognition as a 2015 Tree City USA sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry program (the Forest Service).

The City of Atlantic has met the core standards for tree care during the past year. Over 135 million Americans live in Tree USA communities. In its 40th year of celebration, the Tree City USA program is critical to the U.S. Forest Service. This federal partner delivers technical and financial resources to states, cities and communities across the nation with each community adhering to a State Action Plan, guiding investments in each state while accomplishing local projects and programs.

The U.S. Forest Service and Arbor Day Foundation cooperate with communities to establish healthy forests, improve air and water quality and contribute to important national energy conservation goals. These local investments create long term major environmental improvements nationwide.

I commend the City of Atlantic and urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the community on this award and wishing them nothing but continued success.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I missed Roll Call vote numbers 306 through 333 because I was speaking at my grandson's graduation. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall No.	H.R./H. Res.	Vote
306	H.R. 5293 Shuster Amendment No. 2	No
307	H.R. 5293 Ellison Amendment No. 9	Yes
308	H.R. 5293 Rogers Amendment No. 12	No
309	H.R. 5293 Quigley Amendment No. 13	Yes
310	H.R. 5293 O'Rourke Amendment No. 16	Yes
311	H.R. 5293 Huffman Amendment No. 17	Yes
312	H.R. 5293 Poe Amendment No. 19	No

Rollcall No.	H.R./H. Res.	Vote
313	H.R. 5293 Sanford Amendment No. 21	No
314	H.R. 5293 Buck Amendment No. 22	No
315	H.R. 5293 Byrne Amendment No. 24	No
316	H.R. 5293 King Amendment No. 25	No
317	H.R. 5293 Gosar Amendment No. 26	No
318	H.R. 5293 King Amendment No. 27	No
319	H.R. 5293 Lamborn Amendment No. 29	No
320	H.R. 5293 Massie Amendment No. 30	No
321	H.R. 5293 Massie Amendment No. 31	Yes
322	H.R. 5293 McClintock Amendment No. 32	No
323	H.R. 5293 Mulvaney Amendment No. 33	Yes
324	H.R. 5293 DeSantis Amendment No. 34	No
325	H.R. 5293 Rohrabacher Amendment No. 36	No
326	H.R. 5293 Walberg Amendment No. 37	No
327	H.R. 5293 Conyers Amendment No. 40	Yes
328	H.R. 5293 Gabbard Amendment No. 42	No
329	H.R. 5293 McGovern Amendment No. 44	Yes
330	H.R. 5293 Lee Amendment No. 45	Yes
331	H.R. 5293 Polis Amendment No. 46	Yes
332	H.R. 5293	No
333	H.R. 5471	Yes

### TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF BONDURANT

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Bondurant, Iowa for its recognition as a 2015 Tree City USA sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry program (the Forest Service).

The City of Bondurant has met the core standards for tree care during the past year. Over 135 million Americans live in Tree USA communities. In its 40th year of celebration, the Tree City USA program is critical to the U.S. Forest Service. This federal partner delivers technical and financial resources to states, cities and communities across the nation with each community adhering to a State Action Plan, guiding investments in each state while accomplishing local projects and programs.

The U.S. Forest Service and Arbor Day Foundation cooperate with communities to establish healthy forests, improve air and water quality and contribute to important national energy conservation goals. These local investments create long term major environmental improvements nationwide.

I commend the City of Bondurant and urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the community on this award and in wishing them nothing but continued success.

### TRIBUTE TO MADISON HANCE

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Madison Hance of Creston High School. Madison was recently honored for outstanding academic achievement at the Fourteenth Annual Governor's Scholar Recognition on May 1, 2016.

This statewide program is sponsored by the Iowa Governor's Office, the Iowa High School Athletic Association and the Iowa Farm Bureau. Each Iowa High School was invited to select a senior with the highest academic ranking. Not only are they academically gifted,

but the selected students are often the youth who are successful in extra-curricular activities and community endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Madison Hance in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to reach her goals. I invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Madison on receiving this esteemed designation, and wishing her the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

#### TRIBUTE TO BRITTANY SMITH

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Brittany Smith, an Abraham Lincoln High School of Des Moines, Iowa graduate and current student at Grand View University. Brittany Smith recently received the Most Valuable Player title from the National Collegiate Bowling Coaches Association for 2015–2016.

Brittany was raised in a family of bowlers. Her mother is the general manager of Air Lanes Bowling Center in Des Moines. The time she spent growing up in those bowling centers influenced her love of the sport and developed her work ethic to always improve her game. As she told the Des Moines Register, “I won’t leave the bowling center until I get a problem fixed. I have a mindset that I can be better every single day.” She practices hours each day but is also a full time student, majoring in criminal justice, dreaming of one day serving as a police officer. With that tenacity, Brittany Smith is a shining example of what a true champion is.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Brittany Smith for this recognition. I am proud to represent her in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in

congratulating Brittany Smith and wishing her nothing but continued success.

#### SHELBY DECISION . . . THREE YEARS LATER

#### HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 21, 2016*

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today on Restoration Tuesday, I rise to draw attention to the coming three-year anniversary of the Supreme Court *Shelby v. Holder* decision and the damage that it inflicted on our democratic process.

In 2013, the Supreme Court of the United States handed down a decision that simply called for an update of the formula used to determine which states required federal preclearance prior to enacting legislation affecting the voting process. Shortly after, a number of states, including Alabama, quickly passed restrictive laws designed to suppress the vote after the Supreme Court struck down Section 4—the coverage formula provision making it harder of federal protection for vulnerable communities. Since the decision, new restrictive laws have been put in place in 22 states—18 of them Republican led—since 2010. The *Shelby* decision made it easier to limit access to the ballot box. And so here we are . . . three years later.

We must accept the charge that the Supreme Court handed to provide a new modern day formula to determine when states are covered under the Voting Rights Act. In June of 2015 I rose to the challenge and introduced the Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2015. Most of the Democratic members have signed on as co-sponsors. Just last week, I signed a discharge petition on this legislation to force an immediate vote on the House floor. Still, there has been much talk on both sides with little collective action. We were given this challenge in 2013, but somehow, here we are . . . three years later.

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was reauthorized nearly a decade ago and it is shameful that still today, people across the nation do not enjoy full and free access to exercise their right to vote. It is reprehensible that still in 2016, Americans across the nation continue to face modern day barriers to the ballot box. The time is always ripe to do what is right. As we continue to progress throughout this election year, it is especially critical that all Americans have fair and equal access to the ballot box. Our very democracy is built on the ability of every citizen being able to have their voices heard and vote counted. No Vote, No Voice. America cannot and must not be silenced.

After decades of progress that culminated with the Voting Rights Act of 1965, we are now going backward. Old battles have become new again. The guise of a free photo ID masks the various fees necessary to pay for documents needed to obtain the ID. This “poll tax” makes it harder to vote for those who are barely able to make ends meet. Many elderly are unable to acquire documents proving birth due to the high number of midwife births. These are real barriers affecting real people. Is it our job as Members of Congress to deny them the right to vote? Is this obstruction of the vote what we took from the Supreme Court instructing us to revisit and recreate a formula? Why are we still here . . . three years later?

My colleagues, we are approaching the first Presidential election since the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 without full protection of the law against discrimination at the ballot box. We must stand on the virtue of a true democracy, constantly striving to remove blemishes from our process. A year has passed since the introduction of the Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2015, and it is being held up in committee processes, instead of being pushed through to restore the voting process for all Americans. It is time to band together and fulfil that which we have been tasked to accomplish. Delay too long is justice denied. The time is now. We must Restore The Vote.